Restriction on tourists and construction activities in tiger reserves

1038. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's monitoring Committee set up by the National Tiger Conservation Authority has come up with a new eco-tourism policy to restrict movement of tourists and construction activities in and around the tiger reserves;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the tourism activities around tiger reserves have become new source of tension and threat; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the eco-tourism policy will protect tigers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has constituted a Committee, whose mandate, *interalia*, includes providing inputs for an ecotourism strategy to benefit fringe dwelling local people and relocated villagers.

(c) and (d) The new guidelines would be in conformity with the Tiger Task Force recommendations for strengthening tiger conservation in the country.

Pollution in Yamuna

1039. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has recently declared Yamuna as the worst polluted river;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether Government has spent huge amount on the cleaning of Yamuna in the past few years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the factors responsible due to which Yamuna has remained polluted and the effective steps taken to check its pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) As informed by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Yamuna has not been declared the worst polluted river. The water quality monitoring carried out by CPCB indicates that the water quality in the stretch of the river from Tajewala to Palla in Haryana is within the prescribed limits. However, the stretch of the river in the vicinity of Delhi